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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 09/451,939 | 12/01/1999 | NINGNING MIAO | CIBT-P02-044 | 9684 |
| 28120 | 7590 | 03/23/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| ROPE & GRAY LLP ONE INTERNATIONAL PLACE BOSTON, MA 02110-2624 | | | | BRANNOCK, MICHAEL T |
| | | ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | 1646 | | |

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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| APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|

EXAMINER

ART UNIT PAPER

031104

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Commissioner for Patents

All claims are allowable. However, due to a potential interference, ex parte prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Brannock, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (571) 272-0869. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yvonne Eyler, Ph.D., can be reached at (571) 272-0871.

Official papers filed by fax should be directed to (703) 872-9306. Faxed draft or informal communications with the examiner should be directed to (703) 308-0294.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Attached is the IDS (PTO-1449) filed 01/08/04. It has been considered and does not affect the patentability of the instant application.

MB

March 11, 2004

YVONNE EYLER, PH.D.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600